

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 5-9, 11 and 15-17 are currently active.

Claims 3, 4, 10 and 12-14 have been canceled.

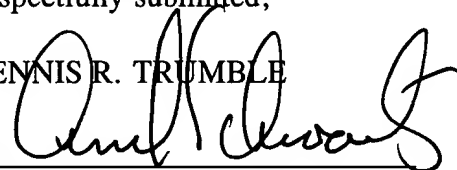
The Examiner has allowed Claim 1. The Examiner has indicated that Claims 4-8, 10-12, 14 and 15 would be allowable if rewritten to include all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 2 is now Claims 3 and 4 rewritten as such; Claim 16 is Claim 12 rewritten as such; and Claim 17 is Claims 13 and 14 rewritten as such. It is submitted the pending claims are now in conditions for allowance.

In view of the foregoing remarks, it is respectfully requested that the outstanding rejections and objections to this application be reconsidered and withdrawn, and Claims 1, 2, 5-9, 11 and 15-17, now in this application be allowed.

Respectfully submitted,

DENNIS R. TRUMBLE

By


Ansel M. Schwartz, Esquire
Reg. No. 30,587
One Sterling Plaza
201 N. Craig Street, Suite 304
Pittsburgh, PA 15213
(412) 621-9222

Attorney for Applicant

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that the foregoing is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231,

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Ansel M. Schwartz
Registration No. 30,587

7/16/04
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